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F. Bell.
4.16.02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: FURUHATA)

Serial No.: 09/459,305)

Filed: December 10, 1999)

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES, METHODS OF)

MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR)

DEVICES, CIRCUIT SUBSTRATES AND)

ELECTRONIC DEVICES)

Group Art Unit: 2811

Examiner: Tran, T.

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sirs:

In response to the Office Action dated September 25, 2001, the time for response being extended to March 25, 2002 by the enclosed petition for extension of time, please enter and consider the following:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-12 and 20-25 without prejudice.

Please amend claim 13 without prejudice, as follows:

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13. (amended) A semiconductor device comprising:
tunnel insulating films, floating gates, dielectric films and control gates, all of which are laminated on first and second cell areas on a semiconductor substrate;
sources and drains formed on the first and second cell areas at positions in contact with a common plane defined by a surface of the semiconductor substrate;
a connecting area capable of electrically connecting one of the source and drain of the first cell area with one of the source and drain of the second cell area, wherein the connecting area has an electric resistance which is lower than any one of the sources and drains of the first and second cell areas.